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Road Construction and Minor Irrigation Overseer's course of the Annamalai University.

* 626 *Q.*—Sri K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of persons who have so far passed the examination for the Road Construction and Minor Irrigation Overseer's course of the Annamalai University?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" One hundred and eleven, Sir."

Sri K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Sir, many of the diploma-holders of this course could not get employment as this course is considered inferior to the L.C.E. Course. May I request the Government to treat it as being on a par with the L.C.E. Course? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, the matter is under the consideration of the Government. We have already been relaxing the relevant rules and absorbing these diploma-holders and, as a matter of fact, 34 persons have already been absorbed."

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, may I know why this Road Construction and Minor Irrigation Overseer's Course of the Annamalai University was recently abolished? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, this course was abolished because most of the persons turned out by the University could not be absorbed in service."

Tambaram Sanatorium.

* 627 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of persons registered for treatment in the Tambaram Sanatorium during the years 1952 and 1953;

(*b*) how many of them were provided with beds and treated during the years 1952 and 1953;

(*c*) how many of them are still in the waiting list;

(*d*) whether the hospital authorities provide beds to patients according to priority of registration; and

(*e*) the expenses incurred in running the sanatorium for the years 1952 and 1953 showing separately for each year the cost of the establishments and other expenses?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The number of persons registered for treatment in the Tambaram Sanatorium during the years 1952 and 1953 is 1,691 and 2,223 respectively.

" (*b*) In 1952, 546 patients and in 1953, 851 patients were admitted and treated.

" (*c*) Nil.

" (*d*) Yes, Sir.

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" (*e*) The expenses incurred in running the Sanatorium, for the years 1952 and 1953 are as follows :

	Establishment. (1)	Other expenses. (2)	Total. (3)
1952 ..	2,75,460	6,96,399	9,71,859
1953 ..	2,91,547	8,82,121	11,73,668 "

SRI A. RATNAM :—" Sir, may I know from the Hon. the Minister for Health whether there is any proposal to increase the number of beds in the Tamabaram Sanatorium; if so, by how many, and what will be the approximate cost? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, bed strength has been increased every year. The bed strength is now over 500."

SRI S. ARUMUGAM PILLAI :—" சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, நான் பல கேள்விகளுக்கு 'நோட்டீஸ்' கொடுத்திருந்தும், நாளதுவரை இந்தச் சபையின்முன் அவைகள் வராமல் இருக்கின்றனவென்பதை வருத்தத்தோடு தங்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்ள விரும்புகிறேன். "

MR. SPEAKER :—" அந்தந்த இலாகாக்களிலிருந்து பதில்கள் வந்தவுடனே அவைகள் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்படும். "

" நீங்கள் மூலக் கேள்வியின்மீது 'ஸப்ளிமெண்டரி' கேள்வி கேட்கப் போகிறீர்கள் என்று நினைத்து உங்களைக் கூப்பிட்டேன். "

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, are the patients admitted to this institution according to priority in the waiting list? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the patients are admitted according to priority but emergency cases are admitted in advance of the place assigned. Also, cases suitable for early surgery are being given priority."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" Sir, is it a fact that several of the patients who have registered their names for beds in the hospital have been summoned only after their death? Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health assure us that this thing will not happen in future? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the number of patients in the waiting list has been reduced very much since last year. At present we have on the waiting list only the patients registered in 1954."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, as far as my information goes, there are 8 female wards in this sanatorium. May I know how many lady doctors are working there? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, a separate question may be asked."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, of the patients admitted to this sanatorium, will the Hon. the Minister for Health give us statistics regarding those who were admitted in the usual course according to priority of application and those admitted as exceptional cases? "

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, a separate question may be put."

Payyanur-Padiyatchal road.

* 628 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) under what class the Payyanur-Padiyatchal road, Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar, has been included; and

(*b*) when this road was last repaired and who is responsible for its maintenance?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A stretch of one mile and five furlongs of the road from Payyanur to Vellur has been classified as 'State Highway' and the remaining stretch of 13 miles and 6 furlongs from Vellur to Padiyatchal as 'Major District Road'. The Government are responsible for the maintenance of the State Highway and the District Board is responsible for the maintenance of the Major District Road. The road is being maintained annually and necessary repairs to the road for the year 1953–54 have been carried out."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, are the Government aware of the fact that the condition of this road maintained by the Malabar District Board is so bad that the bus-owners, drivers and conductors have to perform at more than one place the work of sappers and miners, to put up temporary bridges and people who have not insured their lives are afraid to travel by this road? Will the Government see that this road is maintained at least in a tolerably good condition for traffic? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASWAMI PADAYACHI :—" Sir, the matter will be looked into."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, as far as this road is concerned, this is the worst road in Malabar. If anybody travels through it, it could be seen that everywhere the board 'caution' is put. If one bridge is destroyed and as soon as that bridge is restored, another bridge is destroyed."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" By whom? "

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" It is due to negligence on the part of the Public Works Department. Even when the Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam came to Malabar, the bridge at Kundara was destroyed. But two hours before he was due to arrive there the Public Works Department put up some planks to make the Hon. Minister understand that the road was quite good. Sir, may I request the Hon. the Minister in charge of Local Administration to make an enquiry into this matter of gross negligence on the part of the Public Works Department, and the Malabar District Board? Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to look into the matter and see that this road is rendered fit for traffic? "